

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing releasable engagement between two structures, said system comprising:
a stud extending outwardly from a first one of said structures along an axis, said stud having an outer surface oriented at an angle to said axis to define an outer diameter along at least an end portion of said stud; and
a resilient member secured [adjacent a surface] between surfaces of a second one of said structures, each of said surfaces being substantially perpendicular to said axis of said stud, said resilient member having a substantially torroidal configuration defining an opening, said opening having a relaxed state smaller than said outer diameter of said end portion of said stud;
wherein said opening of said resilient member is [configured to] resiliently expandable [contact said stud to expand] radially outwardly to permit passage of said end portion of said stud upon application of a force parallel to said axis;
wherein said opening of said resilient member [is configured to engage] engages said outer surface of said stud when said resilient member is relaxed, thereby providing engagement between said structures; and
wherein said opening of said resilient member is [configured to expand] expandable to release said outer surface of said stud upon application of an opposite force parallel to said axis, thereby releasing said structures.
2. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said structures comprises a frame.
3. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said stud is mounted on said frame.
4. Cancelled.
5. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim [4] 1, wherein said resilient member is positioned adjacent a surface of [said] a door.
6. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said stud is substantially cylindrical.
7. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said surface of said stud defines a groove that extends about a periphery of said stud.
8. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said resilient member comprises a radial spring.
9. Cancelled.
10. Cancelled.
11. Cancelled.
12. Cancelled.
13. Cancelled.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for providing releasable engagement between two structures and for maintaining a predetermined gap between said structures, said system comprising:

a substantially cylindrical stud mounted on one of said structures and extending outwardly therefrom along an axis, said stud having a groove extending about a periphery of said stud and defining a surface at an angle to said axis of said stud, and said stud having a shoulder positioned to contact a limiting surface of the other one of said structures; and

a torroidal radial spring restrained adjacent a surface of the other one of said structures, said radial spring having an outer surface contacting said surface of said other one of said structures to prevent movement of said outer surface radially outwardly with respect to said axis of said stud, said radial spring also having an inner surface movable radially outwardly with respect to said axis of said stud from a relaxed position to an expanded position;

said inner surface of said radial spring defining an inner diameter smaller than the maximum diameter of said stud when said radial spring is in said relaxed position, and said inner surface being [configured to] resiliently expandable [contact said stud to expand] radially outwardly to said expanded position to permit passage of said stud when an axial force is applied to said stud or said radial spring biasing said first and second structures apart, said radial spring [being configured to] releasably [engage] engaging said groove of said stud when said radial spring is in said relaxed position such that the shoulder of the stud on one of the structures contacts the limiting surface of the other one of the structures, thereby providing releasable engagement between said structures, and thereby maintaining said predetermined gap between said structures.

15. The system as recited in claim 14, one of said structures comprising a frame and the other of said structures comprising a door, said stud being mounted on said frame and said radial spring being mounted on said door.

16. Cancelled.

17. Cancelled.

18. Cancelled.

19. Cancelled.

20. Cancelled.

21. Cancelled.

22. (Currently Amended) A latching assembly for providing releasable engagement between [two structures] a door and a frame of a computer system, said latching assembly comprising:

a stud extending outwardly from one of said [structures] door or said frame along an axis, said stud having an outer surface oriented at an angle to said axis; and

a resilient member positioned adjacent a surface of the other one of said [structures] door or said frame, said resilient member having a substantially torroidal configuration, an outer surface of said resilient member contacting said surface of said other one of said [structures] door or said frame to prevent movement of said

outer surface of said resilient member radially outwardly, an inner surface of said resilient member defining an opening moveable radially outwardly;

said resilient member having a relaxed position wherein said opening is smaller than said stud to releasably engage said outer surface of said stud, and said resilient member having an expanded position wherein said opening is sized to permit passage of said stud.

23. (Currently Amended) An enclosure latching system for providing releasable engagement between a door and an enclosure, said latching system comprising:
a stud extending outwardly from one of said door and said enclosure along an axis, said stud having an outer surface oriented at an angle to said axis; and
a resilient spring member secured in a spring housing adjacent a surface of the other one of said door and said enclosure, said resilient member having:
a substantially torroidal configuration,
an outer surface constrained by contacting said surface of said other one of said door and said enclosure to prevent movement of said outer surface of said resilient member radially outward, and
an inner surface moveable radially outward;
said torroidal configuration of said resilient member defining an opening resiliently expandable from a relaxed state smaller than said stud radially outward to an expanded state to permit passage of said stud, said resilient member [being configured to] releasably [engage] engaging said surface of said stud in said relaxed state, thereby providing releasable engagement between said door and said enclosure.

24. A latching system for releasably engaging a door to a frame comprising:
a stud mounted on one of said door and said frame and having an axis and a surface, at least a portion of said surface being angled with respect to said axis of said stud; and
a coiled spring mounted in a housing on the other one of said door and said frame and having an axis arranged in a circle to form a torroidal configuration and an outer surface constrained by contacting said housing to prevent movement of said outer surface of said [resilient member] coiled spring radially outward, said torroidal configuration of said spring defining an opening which is exposed when said door is open and is expandable by introduction of said stud therein to allow the stud to pass through said opening and which relaxes to releasably engage said angled surface of said stud.

25. A door assembly comprising:
a frame;
a door mounted for movement with respect to said frame;
a stud extending from one of said frame and said door along an axis, said stud having an outer surface oriented at an angle to said axis;
a resilient member retained adjacent a surface of the other one of said frame and said door, said resilient member having a substantially torroidal configuration defining an outer surface and an opening;
said opening of said resilient member being resiliently expandable from a relaxed diameter smaller than said stud to an expanded diameter sufficient to permit passage of said stud by application of a force along said axis biasing said frame and said door together;
said outer surface of said resilient member being in contact with said surface of said other one of said frame and said door, said surface being positioned to

constrain said outer surface of said resilient member and prevent movement of said outer surface of said resilient member radially outwardly;

wherein when said door is closed with respect to said frame, said resilient member releasably engages said outer surface of said stud, thereby providing releasable engagement between said door and said frame.

26. (Currently Amended) A system for providing releasable engagement between two structures, said system comprising:

a stud operatively connected to a first one of said structures;

a torroidal spring operatively connected to a second one of said structures, said torroidal spring being positioned to engage said stud; and

means for [releasably engaging and] disengaging said stud and said torroidal spring by application of forces generally parallel to an axis of said stud.